



THE WINTER SEASON IN LONDON—A DANCE AT THE HYDE PARK HOTEL.

—Illustrated London News.

KALAKAUA'S URBANITY.

J. W. GIRVIN.

During Kalakaua's last visit to California he made quite an itinerary through the State. In the southern counties his approach was heralded by the press generally, some of them assuring their readers that "his dusky majesty" would arrive at a certain hour, and every station along the line was crowded with farmers and others to see a live king.

I was Hawaiian consul in San Diego at that time and received a wire from the chamberlain as to the hour of arrival of the train which I duly communicated to the press. I remember it was on a Sunday afternoon. During the day the captain of the local company of the N. G. C. called at the house and asked my opinion of his bringing the company out as an escort for the king. I assured him that the king would appreciate the honor but that I could not ask for it.

When the hour of arrival of the train bearing His Majesty and suite drew nigh I went down to the depot and was surprised to note the immense throngs of all classes who crowded the streets bound on a similar mission. The company of the N. G. C. had engaged the services of the City Guard Band the whole making quite a martial array.

Arrived at the depot the company formed ranks the captain coming to me and saying if I had any wishes in the matter that he would carry them out. I merely said that if he would prevent any one from boarding the train and after we took carriages for the Coronado Hotel if he would keep the crowd at a respectful distance on the street and ferry that it would be all that would be necessary.

I went on the car and met the king who seemed much pleased to meet me. While we chatted, looking over my shoulder he saw a man coming in the door and said who is that? I said that is contrary to orders and went to the man and told him he must leave the car and could call on the king in the morning. I then told the king of the arrangements I had made

for his comfort and all being ready we left the train. As we passed down the long depot platform the guard presented arms and arranged themselves into lines on either side and at the rear of the party until we took carriages. They escorted us to and on the ferry and took the rapid transit to the hotel and arrived there before us. There they formed ranks and kept the approach clear until we went up the broad steps.

About midway His Majesty turned about, with his hat in his hand, and in a nice little speech thanked the soldiers for their kindness. From the landing he again turned to them when with one accord they gave three rousing cheers for the king to which he saluted.

After I escorted him to the suite of rooms which I had engaged for him I asked as a favor that I might present the officers of the company. He consented, telling me that while in San Diego any arrangements I should make for him would be agreeable.

I brought the officers in and presented them and they conversed with him for a time during which his steward served wine and cigars. While we chatted Col. Macfarlane, the chamberlain, came in and said he had taken all the boys into the sample room and treated them to wine and cigars. The next day the morning papers were full of accounts of the king of the Hawaiian Islands and of his urbanity.

During his stay in San Diego every moment of his time was taken up in receiving and returning hospitalities. All seemed to unite to do honor to the king, even the guests at the hotel gave an informal amateur play in the opera house attached, after which the chairs were removed and dancing and refreshments were kept up until a late hour.

On the first day there was a great reception to the public and, assisted by Mayor Gunn, I had the honor of presenting an immense number of ladies and gentlemen. In the afternoon the Chamber of Commerce extended an invitation to His Majesty and suite to a drive over the city and to view the magnificent standing exhibit of the fruits, vegetables and mineral products of the county.

Col. Welborn, a southern gentleman, now a U. S. Judge, tendered me his

magnificent span and carriage for the king's use during his visit. I presented him to the king and they two rode together, the Colonel pointing out the beauties of the picturesque city and bay. At the Chamber of Commerce rooms the throng was so dense that our party got split up, although Capt. Schiller and I were near the king continually. One little garçon got in front of the king and said "He's only a nigger anyhow." The king paid no attention but appeared to be engrossed in viewing the wonderful products of the county of San Diego.

On Tuesday the king accepted an invitation to a magnificent banquet at the house of the Hon. L. S. McLure, given by the Knights Templar. I was invited out of courtesy as being of the king's household. Fourteen of us sat down, the banquet lasting from 3 p. m. to 7 p. m. During the dinner soft music was played in an adjoining room. The conversation was general and His Majesty appeared in fine fettle. The table was laid for fourteen but the chamberlain had remained at the hotel. I did not miss him while presenting so many ladies and gentlemen and the banquet being served we marched in to our allotted places. His Majesty had the head of the table and in front of him lay a beautiful flower piece. It was a copy of the Hawaiian flag, the different colors being made of proper flowers. It was made by a Miss Sessions of Oakland. The King said it was the prettiest flower work he had ever seen and asked Mr. McLure if he could have it.

After the first course Mrs. McLure came in and sat down opposite her husband. Sir Knight Conklin remarked, "You have saved our lives, Mrs. McLure, but for you we would have been the unfortunate thirteen." This superstition became a theme of conversation for a few minutes the king remarking that he had no superstitions in that respect and a good dinner always made up for him what was lacking in company. Turning to me the king said, "I do remember my brother once sat down to a dinner of twelve ladies and himself. He is not here now." (Within three weeks the king died in San Francisco.) After the banquet His Majesty asked me to escort the others, who were not knights, to the hotel and entertain them until his return. He and the balance of the party went to the large lodge room where more than two hundred and fifty members met him and I learned that they all gathered a fine impression of his conversational powers.

On the following day he accepted an invitation to an excursion to Sweetwater Dam and down to Tia Juana, in Mexico. When we arrived at the vicin-

ity of the dam we had to climb a hill. There were thousands of people in the excursion. The king noticed a lady climbing under difficulties and went to her assistance and helped her over and down to the dam. We all registered at the office there and walked upon that grand piece of masonry and viewed the immense lake sustained by it as well as the 45,000 acres of olives and lemons watered from there.

The trains then ran from there to Tia Juana where the party visited the Mexican Custom House where they all posted letters and cards. In the village many Mexicans had assembled to see the king. He remarked to me that they resembled our natives very much and he was of the belief that our stock had come from there. He purchased canes, blankets, and curios made of clay and feathers, etc.

On the following day he left San Diego telling me that he was enamored of the place and that he would like to have a residence there and would surely return and complete his visit as he felt that the climate was beneficial for his complaint. He showed many courtesies to the people and willingly gave his autograph to all who asked it and I must say that he created a very favorable impression upon all who were brought into contact with him. Kalakaua had the faculty of being able to converse intelligently upon almost any subject and was good company.

Aloha ino.

HANDSOME HATS ARE MERE TRASH.

It is not generally known that many of the handsomest summer hats worn by the ladies of this country are literally made from wood "shaving." The finest examples of this industry are produced in Japan, these wooden ribbons appearing in many forms, some of which have almost the delicacy and sheen of satin, while others resemble soft and dainty crepes. Only about 15 per cent of the chip is exported in the form of wood ribbons, the remainder being worked into what is commercially known as chi-braid, and which is employed in the same manner as straw braid that is, for hats, basketry and other fancy articles.

The exports in a single year from Japan have amounted to over \$650,000, the United States being a large buyer. The trade is steadily increasing, with a constantly-growing demand, as the industry is comparatively new. While willow is considerably used in Germany, the Japanese manufacturers employ European poplar, spruce, Chinese cypress, cherry, buckeye, paulonia, false hickory and some other kinds of wood. The chip is produced by planing with special tools, the shavings being about 15 inches long, and one and a half in width. The leading forms are known as crepe, thin crepe, striped crepe, scaly crepe, crimped crepe, network crepe, relief figures, pushed, undulated, etc. The product takes dyes readily, and is so thin and flexible that daintiest effects in millinery goods can be secured.

There are about 120 establishments in Japan at present engaged in this industry, several of the largest sending superb exhibits to the St. Louis Exposition, where they received several gold medals. The Japanese Government exhibit also contained quite a pretty collection of ladies' hats, made up in light and elegant forms some of which were trimmed with flowers, also made of chips in imitation of wild flowers of Japan.

The annual production of chip-braid amounts to 3,000,000 bundles, each bundle containing about 15 yards, worth in Tokyo about 25 cents per bundle. The exports are largely to the United States and Great Britain, though the chip ribbons or shavings also go to Italy and France and to China.—Scientific American.



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